



MARYLAND TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Larry Hogan, Governor • Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor

Pete Rahn, Secretary • Paul Comfort, Administrator

Colonel John E. Gavrilis, Chief of Police

Mission Statement

The mission of the Maryland Transit Administration Police Force is to professionally enforce the law, protect its transit community, employees and facilities with dignity and respect.

TO: Paul Comfort
Administrator/CEO

FROM: Colonel John E. Gavrilis
Chief of Police

DATE: August 3, 2015

SUBJECT: Lessons Learned from Baltimore City Civil Unrest – Addendum to July 27, 2015 Report

The following Executive Summary of the Baltimore City Civil Unrest was prepared from the after action report previously submitted and is a compilation of the briefings held and/or attended by myself and members of the Command Staff since April 23, 2015.

On April 25, 2015 civil unrest occurred at Camden Yards during the Orioles game. Rioters/criminals began their destruction. From April 25 - May 3, 2015 a State of Emergency existed in Baltimore City. Nearly 200 City and allied agency police officers were injured, many citizens were attacked/injured, hundreds of vehicles were burned, 400 City businesses were burned or looted.

- ❖ Our goal during the Baltimore City Civil unrest was to protect life and property while minimizing the risk to our officers, employees, patrons and property. This was communicated to our officers.
- ❖ Our objectives: Assess resources (manpower, equipment, training, mutual aid, technology); establish lines of communication with allied agencies, identify critical assets, identify mutual aid responsibilities, assess intelligence, assess service impact on our system, activate Incident Command Structure model, activate Emergency Operation Center and coordinate efforts with MTA's Operations.
- ❖ Our outcome: Only one police commander injured, no officers injured, no other MTA employees injured, no patrons injured and minimum damage to MTA property. Service interruptions did occur.

* After action report and Officer Safety and Civil Unrest Talking Points attached.

Lessons Learned

We identified equipment that was needed: helmets, shields, pepper spray foggers, extra prisoner transport capability, additional manpower needed, enhanced civil unrest training, real time communication by MTA media to the public on service interruptions, tunnel communications needed, additional Police Monitoring Facility personnel to monitor CCTV, Additional Police Communication Officers and emergency purchase of meals for officers who were detailed to sites.

Actions taken:

- 4/25/2015: Re-issued 11/21/2014 Training Bulletin regarding civil disturbance/crowd control/demonstrations
- 4/25/2015: Re-emphasize thru Roll call: Handling of civil disturbances/protests, use of helmets/shields and foggers.
- 4/27/2015: Equipment purchased - Helmets for all police personnel, 50 shields to be used as needed, 30 Foggers for crowd/riot control.
- 4/29/2015 and 7/22/2015: Training Bulletins issued for use of personal protective gear (helmets & shields). Instruction manual issued with every helmet and training guidelines issued for shields.
- 5/21/2015: Additional police PINS authorized. (10 per year for next 5 years)
- 5/26/2015: Finance approved replacement vehicles for the vehicles burned during the riots.
- 6/10/2015: Radiax Tunnel Funding approved for improved communications in Metro tunnel.
- 6/12/2015: Celox Gauze (control high volume bleeding) to each officer and in first aid kits in vehicles.
- 6/23/2015 & 7/8/2015: Commanders Participated in City wide debriefings of Baltimore City Civil Unrest.
- 6/24/2015 and 7/9/2015: Tasers purchased and training to be scheduled (Receipt of all Tasers 8/30/2015).
- 7/6-9, 2015: Training Supervisor attended Verbal Defense and Influence Instructor course for use in developing de-escalation training class for 1/2016 In-Service Training
- 7/13-17, 2015: Training Supervisor attended Less Than Lethal Training
- 7/23/2015: Outfit two additional police vehicles for prisoner transport. Inserts ordered - in progress.
- 8/3-21, 2015: Civil Unrest Training for all sworn personnel. This training is an 8 hour block of instructions that incorporates best practices used by other Maryland police agencies. We will also re-emphasize the prior training that occurred via roll call and training bulletins
- 8/10-12, 2015: Personnel to attend Mobile Field Force Training Information will be used to develop In-Service Training curriculum.
- 8/13-15, 2015: Operational Commanders to attend Mobile Field Force Training
- 8/26-27, 2015: Personnel to attend Taser Instructor Certification training.
- Prisoner transport vehicle improvements - locking seat belts installed 5/19/2015 and training bulletin for proper care of prisoners issued. Padding of interior of prisoner transport vehicle- in progress. Materials ordered 7/8/2015; awaiting arrival.
- 1/2016: Develop In-Service Training to focus on civil disturbance response update/refresher – Pending.

- Pending - Creation of a Reserve Mobile Field Team (training with MSP) – in progress. Mobile Field Team along with other trained personnel responsible for deploying equipment. All Officers have been issued helmets and are responsible for having them available.
- Pending - Freeze any additional leave during August 30-Sept. 12, 2015 to ensure adequate coverage. Starting October 11, 2015 leave will be strictly monitored until the end of trial.
- Pending - MTA Tabletop Exercise: Develop and host a drill based on civil unrest utilizing lessons learned - in progress.

**** It should be noted that every police officer in the employment of the MTA Police received basic riot control (civil disturbance) training while in the Police Academy as required by the Maryland Police Correctional Training Commission. This is in addition to all officers' Police Academy training for Firearms, ASP Baton, Pepper Spray, Handcuffing, Use of Force Continuum, First-Aid, CPR, Emergency Vehicle Operation; application of federal, state and local laws.**

Training Conducted:

- 11/21/2014 Officer Awareness: Demonstrations Related to the Missouri Grand Jury Announcement (Civil Disturbance/Crowd Control/Demonstrations Procedures) Memo attached to roll call training bulletin regarding Ferguson Verdict reminding officers of First Amendment Protection)
- Annual In-Service Training: Firearms Simulator Training (2004 - present) Scenarios are set in our MTA system.
- 1/8 – 4/24/2015 In-Service Training; Simunitions training - utilize scenario based training with an emphasis on deescalating conflicts.
- 1/8 – 4/24/2015 In-Service Training: Defense tactics, use of force continuum, ASP Baton refresher training and Defensive Tactics training.
- 1/8 – 4/24/2015 In-Service Training: Personal Protection Equipment Program- Sworn personnel are annually fit tested according OSHA regulations and received refresher training on the proper usage of the issued gas masks and associated Personal Protection Equipment (PPE). All issued equipment is inspected and adjusted to ensure proper fitting and replaced if found to be defective
- 1/5 - 4/21/2014 In-Service Training: ASP Baton, Pepper spray refresher training and Defense Tactics training.
- 1/9/2015 Sally Port Gate Procedures
- 4/8/2015 Unattended and Suspicious Items
- 4/22/2015 Arrest, Transport, Treatment and Care of Prisoners
- 4/25/2015 Ordered dissemination of Training Bulletin from 11/21/2014 for Roll-Call training and review after events of 4/25/2015 Officer Awareness: Demonstrations Related to the Missouri Grand Jury Announcement (Civil Disturbance/Crowd Control/Demonstrations Procedures) Memo attached to training bulletin regarding Ferguson Verdict reminding officers of First Amendment Protection)
- 4/29/2015 Personal Protective Helmets and Shields; Instruction Manual issued with every helmet and training guidelines issued for shields.
- 5/19/2015 Prisoner Transport Locks
- 6/19/2015 Searching of Prisoners
- 6/12/2015 Celox Rapid Hemostatic Gauze Issuance to All Sworn Personnel

- 7/22/2015 Use of Police Protective Helmets; Reemphasized training
- 7/22/2015 Use of Police Protective Shields; Reemphasized training
- 7/22/2015 MK-9 Oleoresin Capsicum Delivery System (Pepper Spray Fogger)
- 8/3-21, 2015: Civil Unrest Training for all sworn personnel

Equipment Issued:

O.C. Fog Canisters	5 purchased on 11/21/2014 during Civil Unrest after Ferguson Decision 15 additional units purchased on 7/9/2015 and received on 7/21/2015 5 units deployed to Northern District, 5 units deployed to Southern District and 10 units stored in Quartermaster. 10 Additional units on order.
Helmets:	206 purchased (30 on 4/27/2015, received on 4/29/2015 and issued to the Districts) 176 on 4/28/2015 received and issued on 4/30/2015. Issued to all active sworn personnel leaving 52 helmets in Quartermaster.
Shields:	115 purchased (30 Purchased on 4/27/2015, received on 4/29/2015 and deployed to the Districts) 25 Purchased on 7/6/2015 and received on 7/8/2015 and issued. Total deployment of 55 shields: 25 to Northern District, 25 to Southern District, 5 issued to HQ (stored in Quartermaster) 60 Shields on back order.
Sabre Red OC: Standard Issue	100 purchased on 4/27/2015 and received on 4/28/2015 (114 stored in Quartermaster includes 14 canisters from previous supply) Standard canister for duty belt use. Reserve stock is maintained in Quartermaster for replenishment of used or expired OC spray.
Celox Gauze	224 packages purchased for all officers (6/12/2015) and patrol vehicle first aid kit (2/13/2015)
Ironclad Patrol Gloves	1/2015

Note: All MTA Police issued equipment includes: ballistic vest (replaced every 5 years), weapon, ASP baton, pepper spray, handcuffs, multi-band interoperable police radio and issued cell phone with Verizon "Field Force Manager" application to help track officers who may need assistance and "Pocket Cop" to permit officers to receive record checks on subjects in the field.